

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00559 301907Z

53

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SAJ-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09

RSC-01 ACDA-05 DPW-01 SAM-01 SCCT-01 IOE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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O P 301834Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 308

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 559

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, ICRC, VN, VS, IT

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT LOW CONFERENCE: ITALIAN POSITION

1. IN A CALL JANUARY 30 ON AMBASSADOR NICOLO DEBERNARDO, WHO WILL LEAD THE ITALIAN DELEGATION AT THE LOW CONFERENCE, HE EXPRESSED TO USDEL OFFICER FIRM PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR THE USG POSITION ON THE PRG ISSUE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY EMPHATIC ON THE PROCEDURAL ASPECT, COMMENTING THAT IT WAS AN IMPORTANT "PRINCIPLE" OF PROCEDURE FOR ANY WELL-CONDUCTED CONFERENCE THAT ISSUES ONCE DECIDED BE CONSIDERED CLOSED EXCEPT FOR EXTRA-ORDINARY REASONS. HE COUNSELED THE US TO STRESS THIS PROCEDUREAL POINT.

2. DIBERNARDO COULD NOT PROMISE, HOWEVER, THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD OPT FOR THE US POSITION. INSTRUCTIONS HAD NOT YET COME. BUT HE THOUGHT THERE WAS HOPE THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD SUPPORT US ON THE PROCEDURAL ISSUE. HE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00559 301907Z

MENT WOULD SUPPORT US ON THE PROCEDURAL ISSUE. HE

EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE POSITIONS OF OTHER WEST EUROPEAN STATES, AND USDEL OFFICER ASSURED HIM THAT WE WERE GETTING SUPPORT FROM THIS QUARTER.

3. DIBERNARDO ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE DEMANDS FOR FULL VOTING REPRESENTATION BY OTHER PARTIES, SUCH AS THE PLO AND SOME AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. IN HIS OPINION, IF THESE OTHER ISSUES ARE RAISED BEFORE THE PRG QUESTION, THEY ARE CERTAIN TO AFFECT ADVERSELY THE RESULT OF THE PRG VOTE. HE BELIEVED THAT THESE OTHER MOVEMENTS, OR SOME OF THEM, WERE SURE TO WIN; THEN THE "DYNAMICS OF THE CONFERENCE" WOULD REACT IN FAVOR OF THE PRG. FOR THIS REASON, HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE BETTER TO GET THE PRG ISSUE OUT OF THE WAY FIRST. DALE

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05 JUL 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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